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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/912,441	07/24/2001	Yoshihiro Yamanishi	04995/022001	4439
22511	7590	10/06/2005	EXAMINER	
OSHA LIANG L.L.P. 1221 MCKINNEY STREET SUITE 2800 HOUSTON, TX 77010			DESIR, JEAN WICEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2614	

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/912,441

Applicant(s)

YAMANISHI, YOSHIHIRO

Examiner

Jean W. Désir

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/15/05, RCE.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schneidewend et al (US 6,249,320).

Claim 1:

The claimed “storage section for storing the major channel and plural receivable subchannels broadcast by the broadcasting station according to the major channel” is disclosed, see Fig. 1 item 60, col. 5 line 63 to col. 6 line 4, where storage section is disclosed as claimed;

the claimed “major channel output section for outputting the major channel stored by said storage section” is disclosed, see Figs. 12, 13;

the claimed “differentiation section for differentiating between the subchannel in selection and the subchannels stored in the storage section other than the subchannel in selection” is disclosed, see Fig. 12, col. 4 lines 43-57;

the claimed "subchannel output section for outputting the subchannel in selection differentiated by said differentiation section and the subchannels other the subchannel in selection" is disclosed, see Fig. 12, col. 11 lines 49-63;

"wherein the major channel (Fig. 12 item 12 NBC) and the plural receivable subchannels (Fig. 12 items 12-1 to 12-6) are simultaneously displayed on an image receiving part (Fig. 12 item 1200 which is an image receiving part) on which a user is simultaneously viewing a program currently broadcast on [content of] the subchannel in selection (col. 4 lines 43-46, col. 11 lines 55-63)".

Claim 5 is disclosed, see Fig. 12 where subchannels (MINOR channels) are sorted according to a predetermined condition as claimed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 3, 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schneidewend et al (US 6,249,320).

Claim 2:

The claimed "said differentiation section is constructed so that the subchannel in selection and the subchannels other than the subchannel in selection are set to different colors" is not explicitly disclosed by Schneidewend, as claimed in claim 2. However,

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Official Notice is taken that setting channels to different colors, different fonts and/or font sizes, is a very well procedure in the art that would facilitate channel selection. An artisan would be motivated to implement this procedure in Schneidewend's disclosure in order to facilitate channel selection. Therefore, the claimed invention would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

Claims 3, 4 are rejected for the same reasons as claim 2.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues on page 5 of the REMARKS that "There is no teaching or suggestion in Schneidewend of *simultaneous viewing of a program* being broadcast on the selected subchannel along with a listing of the major channel and associated subchnnnels". These argument are not persuasive, because Schneidewend clearly teaches *simultaneous viewing of a program*, as claimed and as pointed out in the rejection of claim 1, because Schneidewend selects sub-channel for viewing in conjunction with the EPG displays as shown Figs. 11-13 (see again col. 11 lines 55-63, col. 4 lines 43-46).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean W. Désir whose telephone number is (571) 272 7344. The examiner can normally be reached on 5/4/9 - First Friday Off.


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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Miller can be reached on (571) 272 7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JWD

Sep. 29, 05


JOHN MILLER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600